

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 **1. (Currently amended)** A powering assembly for converting a manual hand truck to a
2 motor driven hand truck, the assembly comprising:

3 a hand truck having a frame defining an outer frame width;

4 an electric motor;

5 a transaxle driven by the electric motor and having differentially connected right
6 and left axles;

7 right and left wheels attached to the right and left axles respectively, the wheels
8 connected to the axles so that the wheels may be set to rotate freely on the axles or to
9 be fixed to the axles so that the wheels do not rotate with respect to the axles;

10 a motor controller electrically connected to the motor; and

11 a power source electrically connected to the motor controller; and

12 said powering assembly fits substantially within the outer frame width.

2. **(Cancelled)** The powering assembly of Claim 1, wherein the wheels are connected
to the axles so that they may be set to rotate freely on the axles or to be fixed to the
axles so that they do not rotate with respect to the axles.

1 **3. (Currently amended)** The powering assembly of Claim 1 2, wherein:

2 the axles include wheel grooves, and wherein the wheels include fixing pins for
3 engaging the wheel grooves to attach the wheels to the axles so that they are axially
4 fixed with respect to the axles; and

5 the powering assembly further includes locking hubs keyed to the axles and
6 having a first hub position and a second hub position, and wherein:

7 in the first hub position the locking hub is disengaged from the respective
8 wheel; and

9 in the second hub position the locking hub is engaged with the respective
10 wheel.

4. **(Original)** The powering assembly of Claim 1, wherein the outer frame width is between approximately ten inches and approximately eighteen inches.
5. **(Original)** The powering assembly of Claim 4, wherein the outer frame width is approximately twelve inches.
6. **(Original)** The powering assembly of Claim 1, wherein the power source comprises two twelve volt batteries.
7. **(Original)** The powering assembly of Claim 1, wherein the motor is between approximately one quarter and approximately one half horse power.
8. **(Original)** The powering assembly of Claim 7, wherein the motor is between approximately one quarter and approximately one third horse power.
9. **(Original)** The powering assembly of Claim 8, wherein the motor is approximately one quarter horse power.
10. **(Original)** The powering assembly of Claim 9, wherein the transaxle and motor may be removed from the hand truck by releasing four fasteners.
11. **(Currently amended)** The powering assembly of Claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the powering assembly resides outside the radius of the wheels, and the powering assembly further including side plates defining a protective profile for the powering assembly.
12. **(Currently amended)** The powering assembly of Claim 11, further including slides attached to the side plates ~~rails~~ to facilitate sliding the hand truck over obstacles.

13. **(Original)** The powering assembly of Claim 12, wherein the slides are fabricated from polytetrafluoroethene (PTFE).

14. **(Original)** The powering assembly of Claim 1, wherein the hand truck includes handles, and wherein the powering assembly includes a speed control attached to the handles, and a power on/off indicator residing proximal to the speed control.

15. **(Original)** The powering assembly of Claim 1, further including a hi/low speed switch for selecting a high speed mode or a low speed mode.

16. **(Original)** The powering assembly of Claim 15, wherein the high speed is approximately four miles per hour and the low speed is approximately two miles per hour.

17. **(Cancelled)** The powering assembly of Claim 1, wherein the hand truck is a convertible hand truck having a two wheel mode and a platform mode.

18. **(Original)** The powering assembly of Claim 17, wherein a low speed is automatically selected when the hand truck is in the two wheel mode.

19. **(Currently amended)** A powered hand truck comprising:

a hand truck having a frame defining an outer frame width between approximately ten inches and approximately eighteen inches;

an electric motor;

~~a transaxle driven by the electric motor and having differentially connected right and left axles~~ driven by the electric motor ;

right and left wheels attached to the right and left axles respectively;

a motor controller electrically connected to the motor;

a speed control communicating wirelessly with the motor controller; and

10 a power source electrically connected to the motor controller,
11 wherein said ~~powering assembly~~ electric motor resides substantially within the
12 outer frame width.

1 20. (Currently amended) A powered hand truck comprising:

2 a frame defining an outer frame width, ~~which frame is convertible between a two~~
3 ~~wheel hand truck mode and a four wheel platform mode for moving over a floor surface;~~

4 a nose end of said frame for carrying material in a two wheel hand truck mode,
5 wherein the nose end is proximal to a floor surface when the hand truck is used in the
6 two wheel mode;

7 a handle end of said frame opposite said nose end;

8 an electric motor fixedly attached to said frame proximal to said nose end;
9 ~~supported by said frame and positioned above the floor surface when said frame is in~~
10 ~~said platform mode;~~

11 a right axle and a left axle differentially connected and, ~~at least one of the right~~
12 ~~axle and the left axle~~ driven by the electric motor;

13 right and left hand truck wheels attached to the right and left axles respectively
14 and residing proximal to said nose end;

15 a convertible frame residing parallel to the frame when the hand truck is in the
16 two wheel mode, and configurable to reside substantially perpendicular to the frame
17 and connected to the frame proximal to the handle end of the frame, when the hand
18 truck is in a platform mode;

19 right and left caster wheels attached to the convertible frame for use in the
20 platform mode; ~~and~~

21 a power source electrically connected to the electric motor, and

22 a speed control attached to the convertible frame opposite the caster wheels,

23 wherein said motor, and power source reside substantially within the outer frame
width.

21. **(New)** The powered hand truck of Claim 20, wherein the speed control is a wireless speed control.

22. **(New)** The powering assembly of Claim 20, wherein the hand truck wheels are connected to the axles so that the hand truck wheels may be set to rotate freely on the axles or to be fixed to the axles so that the hand truck wheels do not rotate with respect to the axles.